



# Arkansas River Advisory Committee

Meeting Highlights from April 25, 2007

Place: 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall 455 N. Main, South Conference Room

## **Agenda Item 1: Introductions & updates**

### **In attendance:**

Jack Brown  
Kay Johnson  
Claire Willenburg  
Sharon Fearey  
Ben Rogers  
Tom Kneil  
Betty Pitts  
Libby Albers  
Kathy Dittmer

## **Agenda Item 1: Introductions**

### Committee Chair Vacancy

- The City Council will be looking at committees and how to fill the vacancies created when Bob Martz passed.
- Kay Johnson suggested that we review the charter for the committee to see if there is specific information on how committee chairs and committee members are assigned to the group.  
*Since the April meeting, the City Council Minutes that discuss the Arkansas River Advisory Committee have been posted to the web page:*  
<http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Environmental/River/Committee/>

## **Agenda Item 2: Update from the Arkansas River Technical Task Force**

### Monitoring: sampling & testing

- Jim will begin sampling on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and end on May 10<sup>th</sup> - E. coli will be measured
- A 5-day mean will be used to calculate the water quality
- One sample will be taken at the Lewis street bridge each morning during RF and taken to the W&S lab at Plant 2 for analysis. 24-hour delay on results to allow the E.coli cultures to mature in the lab
- New flags have been order and will be flown on the Lewis Street and Douglas street bridges

### Northwest Treatment Plant Wetlands

- Vaughn Weaver made a presentation about the construction of the wetlands at the Cowskin Creek Water Reclamation Facility
- These wetlands are designed as an education tool, wildlife habitat, and recreation.
- Pearson is performing the excavation
- Working with adjacent landowners to understand the bmp's that are being implemented.

### Arkansas River Access Plan

- Consultant is due to give their draft report to the ARCAP steering committee on May 22nd.
- Look at the Kaw River and how those communities have integrated increased access

## **Agenda Item 3: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual River Trash Roundup**

- The annual River Trash Round up will be on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. A number of local businesses and organizations will be assisting with the effort.  
*A total of 171 bags totaling 1.64 tons were collected that day.*
- There is interest in doing a clean up on the Little River. Would a Saturday in June work?  
*On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 55 bags of trash totaling 1200 pounds were collected.*

#### **Agenda Item 4: Other Items**

##### Stormwater

- **Would the committee adopt “stormwater” into this group?** Stormwater drains directly to neighboring creeks and the river. This additional focus would allow for broader funding opportunities. Currently, there is a lot of interest in Low Impact Development, Green Roofs, and Rain Gardens. **Would this focus need to be added to the charter?** All stormwater efforts will be included in the annual report to KDHE.
- **Porous Pavement:** Dream in Green speaker series has addressed the porous pavement technology and the impact on runoff and water quality. Could this technology be tried at Rounds & Porter? What about the school and business parking lots near Jabara Airport that feed directly into Chisholm creek? Could there be porous pavement recommendations applied to new developments over a certain size?
- **Green Roof:** speaker at Dream in Green also addressed talked about the green roof concept. Could this be tried on the top of Council Chambers? Rounds & Porter? Tops of parking garages? **Need to approach the Board of Realtors and Ed Martin to discuss this concept in the arena and downtown area.**

##### WRAPS

- KDHE is putting a lot of focus on the WRAPS program as a holistic approach to watershed restoration. The grant is a “bottom up” approach and is driven by WRAPS stakeholders and community involvement. The City is sharing the grant with the Sedgwick County Conservation District. Both groups will get \$50k to start with. This funding will be used to gather stakeholders and compile the public’s interest. Once this grant is official accepted and approved by City Council, the City will begin applying for future WRAPS funding.
- Moe Terrebonne from the City Environmental Services will be attending the April WRAPS Capacity Building Workshop.

#### **Adjourn**